

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment does not involve new matter. Most of the amended claims have simply had their claim dependency changed. The amendment to claim 93 is supported by original claim 82.

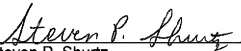
Applicants elect to prosecute the claims of Group D in the present application. While original claims 82-86 and 93-97 were recognized as belonging to Group D, it is believed that following the forgoing amendment claims 2, 5, 14-18, 20-23, 25-31, 34-37, 43, 48, 49, 54, 62-65, 78-81, 87 and 89-92 are now also properly in Group D.

This election is made with traverse. First, it is noted that during the PCT phase of this application, no objection was made as to unity of invention. Second, there is an insufficient rational given in the Office Action as to why restriction is proper. In the Office Action, some features in the independent claims in the groups are listed. However, for the reason as to why the claims in the different groups lack the same or corresponding special technical features, it is merely stated that, "each group is directed to a fluid handling part or needlefree access device that has a special resilient member, piston or housing." This explanation is insufficient for applicants to know the rational by which the various groups of claims are restricted from one another. There is no explanation required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.475 as to whether the different features listed for each group of claims define a contribution which that group of claims makes over the prior art.

Therefore, withdrawal of the restriction requirement or a complete explanation of the reasons justifying the restriction to which applicants can respond is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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